

CONFIRMATION

DATE: April 18, 1948

FROM: Willauer

TO: General Chennault

METHOD: private code

SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED EVACUATION FOUR CAT PILOTS ~~WHOM WE WERE ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE~~ WHO WERE
CAUGHT IN WEIHSIEN DUE TO LIGHT PLANE CRACK UPS IN ATTEMPTING RESCUE BURRIDGE WHO HAD
GONE THERE INVESTIGATE SITUATION JUST BEFORE COMMUNISTS SUDDENLY CAPTURED AIRPORT
STOP EVACUATION REQUIRED FULL SCALE MILITARY OPERATIONS CAT PLANES AND I BELIEVE
OUR ACTIVITIES SOLELY RESPONSIBLE HOLDING WEIHSIEN STOP DETAILS IN LETTER FOLLOWING

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
29-Sep-2009

1948-03-08

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customs

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WASHINGTON

Marquis Childs Reports the Inside Facts on the Washington Scene
Editorial Page Today

CALLING

PASADENA STAR-1

TWO SECTIONS

PHONE: SYCAMORE 2-3111

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1948

FIVE



—Associated Press Wirephoto transmitted to The Star-News today.

CHENNAULTS PASS THROUGH CUSTOMS—Claire Chennault and his young Chinese wife passed through customs en route by air from Shanghai to Washington, where he will testify on American aid to China. Here they explain to an inspector that the Department of Agriculture had agreed to let them bring into the country the exotic species of camellia shown in front of Chennault. Mrs. Chennault will give it to a friend at Minneapolis.

POLICE SIFT THIN CLUES IN KIDNAPING

Playhouse Graduate Tells of Hour of Terror With 'Killer'

Police today were seeking, apparently without a clue, the identity of the self-styled "baby face" knife wielder who Saturday night kidnaped Miss Margaret Elizabeth Stallings, 30-year-old Pasadena Playhouse graduate student director in the apparent misbelief that she was another person and kept her prisoner for an hour of terror in which he boasted he had been paid \$30 to kill her.

Detective John Hall, Pasadena police chemist, said today that he had obtained fingerprints from Miss Stallings' automobile, recovered early yesterday on Huntington Drive at El Sereno, but that he did not think they would be of value, in view of the victim's tale that her assailant carefully wiped off everything he touched in the car. Miss Stallings' own prints were to be taken today to eliminate them from any left by the suspect.

As he drove south on El Molino Avenue, he asked her name. Miss Stallings produced her driver's

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KIDNAPING VICTIM—Miss Margaret S.

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Urge U. S. Troops to Help Train Chinese Forces

WASHINGTON, March 8. (INS)—Lowell R. Rooks, director general of U.N.R.R.A., urged Congress today to send American forces to China to "equip, train and direct, even down to tactics and strategy," troops of Generalissimo Ching Kai-Shek.

The head of the relief organization told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that without military aid, economic assistance to China would fail of its purpose.

Rooks testified on President Truman's proposal for 570 million dollars in economic, non-military aid to China. He said:

"Unless the Chinese government is assisted in its military effort to the extent that it can win the war, the economic situation there can never be satisfactory. There should be no hesitation in introducing into the Chinese government American forces to the extent necessary to equip and direct, even down to tactics and strategy."

He emphasized that to aid the Chinese "we should assist with military supplies and munitions of all kinds."

The U.N.R.R.A. director said he did not think five billion dollars would put China back on its feet unless military aid also is provided.

Maj. Gen. G. E. Edgerton, head of U.N.R.R.A. in China from August, 1946 to May, 1947, also told the committee in reply to questioning by Rep. Smith (R., Wis.) that "some military assistance would be valuable."

WASHINGTON, March 8. (INS)—Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault, wartime commander of the Flying Tigers and now head of Chinese civil aviation, arrived in Washington early today from Shanghai to testify before Congress this week on U. S. aid to China. Chennault was accompanied by his Chinese aide.

Claim Warren's Tax Figures Inaccurate

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8. (P)—The California Manufacturers' association today accused Gov. Earl Warren of submitting inaccurate figures in his state budget and told it should be possible to reduce California's major taxes by 20 per cent. The group's stand was revealed in a letter to the governor, written by A. J. President A. Johnson and used for publication yesterday.

29s Safe After Pacific Alert

license.

Knife at Throat

"I was ordered to pick up a girl driving a 1942 black coupe with a Texas license," he replied, explaining that they were to meet "another party," and that if she was identified as the intended victim, he would kill her.

On Glenarm Street, they passed a street car. The kidnaper pressed the knife point closer to her throat and warned against any outcry. He halted the car on Meridian Avenue in South Pasadena to wait for the "other party." While waiting, he donned black gloves and borrowed a handkerchief from Miss Stallings, with which he wiped his fingerprints from steering wheel and dashboard. As he relaxed his guard, she wrenched open the car door and ran, falling once into a ditch and finally reaching a nearby house. The kidnaper fled in the car.

Believed Ex-Marine
Detective C. Fleck thought the tall, thin kidnaper might be a Marine veteran suffering from a combat-induced mental illness. This came from the youth's reply to Miss Stallings' comment to him that he looked younger than the 25 years he gave as his age.

"They called me 'baby face' in the Fourth Marine Division," he replied, adding that he had been given a medical discharge after two Pacific invasions.

Miss Stallings, who lives at 621 North Los Robles Avenue, and who served as official chaperon to the 1948 Tournament of Roses court last December, was accosted as she parked her 1942 black coupe on Mira Monte Place, on her way to the Playhouse.

The man jammed a small pocket knife against her side and forced her back into the car. Taking the driver's seat himself, he held his right arm around her with the knife point at her throat.

Connecticut's Governor Dies

HARTFORD, Conn., March 8. (P)—Death has cut short the career of James L. McConaughy in the middle of his first term as Connecticut's Governor.

The 60-year-old Republican chief executive, who entered politics after winning distinction as a college administrator, died suddenly from a blood clot in the heart yesterday in Hartford Hospital.

He was president of Wesleyan University for 18 years.

Churchill Raps Navy Scuttling

LONDON, March 8. (INS)—Former Prime Minister Winston Churchill accused the Labor Government of virtually scuttling the British navy today.

The opposition leader, himself a former First Lord of the Admiralty, charged that Prime Minister Attlee's government had allowed Britain's naval strength to fall to a level that would never

Pasadena Playhouse graduate, who was kidnaped Saturday night by a man who said he had been hired to kill her.

Russian Shoots U. S. Soldier; Girl Seized

VIENNA, Austria, March 8. (P)—U. S. Army authorities said an American soldier was shot in the back last night after refusing to obey a Russian order to get off the sidewalk and into the gutter in front of a Russian headquarters in the international district of Vienna.

The soldier is Pvt. Jack Grunden, 18, Portland, Ore. The provost marshal's office said he will recover, but may lose his left arm.

Official Account

The soldier was walking with two other soldiers and three Austrian girls along a sidewalk bordering a parkway in front of the Grand Hotel. A sentry ordered the soldiers into the gutter and the soldiers refused. The sentry then pushed one of the soldiers, who pushed him back. The sentry then called another sentry from inside the hotel.

The second sentry struck the American soldier with his gun, knocking him to his knees. While the soldier was still on the ground, the sentry fired a shot into his back. Another entered the soldier's arm, smashing the elbow.

Russians Hold Girl

Ernie Reed, a Stars and Stripes reporter of Beaver Falls, Pa., arrived at the hotel five minutes after the shooting. He said 40 armed Russian soldiers emerged and formed a cordon around Grunden.

Elfriede Elias, a Vienna girl who understands Russian, returned to the scene to tell her story to the international military police patrol. Reed said a Russian officer tried to take her into the hotel. She screamed: "Do not let them take me in there, they will kill me." Reed pulled her away from the captain, but 15 Russian soldiers barred their path with bayonets and took the girl into the hotel. Officials said she has not yet been released.

Reed said the Russians acted with regard for the international patrol, supposedly the sole authority in such cases. He described this as the "boldest" yet perpetrated against a member of the occupation forces in Vienna by a Russian soldier.

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(P. F.)

December 6, 1948

CHENNAULT

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However no question that if as reported in press you are serious about reviving
Flying Tigers or equivalent and taking direct part in Chinese resistance to
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Force and State Department and bring strong counterattack on you in public mind
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help your personal reputation to date but (b) publication before presently pending
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immediate American help to you in your participation in the immediate crisis.

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